

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of Cedar County,) Application No. 911-023.7
Hartington, seeking funding)
approval for recurring and non-) ORDER APPROVING FUNDING
recurring costs of Enhanced) REQUEST IN PART
Wireless 911 implementation.)
) Entered: March 20, 2007

BY THE COMMISSION:

By written request for funding received December 1, 2006, Cedar County, Hartington, sought funding from the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund for expenses for implementing and providing enhanced wireless 911 service.

In its application, Cedar County sought non-recurring costs in the amount of **\$93,260.98** for the purchase and installation of equipment necessary to implement enhanced wireless 911 service. Cedar County currently uses Motorola Centralink equipment which will no longer be supported by the manufacturer, therefore crippling the county's ability to maintain and upgrade the equipment. The amount sought includes \$1,111.98 for remote equipment maintenance.

Cedar County provided supporting documentation for the equipment and associated expenses from its vendor, TCI. The Enhanced Wireless 911 Advisory Board considered Cedar County's request at its December 11, 2006 meeting and recommended that the Commission approve payment in the amount of **\$75,591.98**. This amount excluded costs for the reporting software package, the UPS freight, and installation and on-site training.

The costs of several items listed in the supporting documentation exceeded the prices contained in TCI's response to the Commission's Request for Proposal (RFP). All costs contained within the request for funding and supporting documentation are set forth in the confidential attachment Appendix A, attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. Those items listed in bold print are priced above the RFP pricing and include \$3,600.00 for SQL Server License w/5CALS, \$2,640.00 for ERStat, \$224.00 for ALI Dbase Modem 202T, \$24.00 for CO Line Surge Protection, \$80.00 for Misc Materials and Cables, \$1,680.00 for 3kVAUPS for server and Norstar Equipment, \$180.00 for 30 Amp backplate, \$360.00 for Audio Interface Unit, \$6,144.00 for Norstar KSU Equipment, \$1,720.00 for installation, and \$200.00 for on-site training.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

This request for additional funding is being processed pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-442 to 86-470. (Cum. Supp. 2006), 291 Neb. Admin. Code, Chapter 1, Section 5, Progression Order No. 5 in Commission Docket No. 911-001, entered July 16, 2002 and the Interim Policy established in Progression Order No. 1 in Commission Docket No. 911-017/PI-116, entered February 13, 2007 (Interim Policy).

Based upon the request for funding, supporting documentation, and in consideration of the recommendation of the Advisory Board, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that costs requested, subject to the limitations set forth below, are eligible under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-465 as all costs have been incurred or will be incurred for the purchase, installation, maintenance or operation of telecommunications equipment and telecommunications services required for the provision of enhanced wireless 911 service.

This funding request was received prior to February 16, 2007. Pursuant to the Interim Policy, the Commission therefore considers this funding request for full reimbursement without being subject to the wireless/landline allocation factor established in the Commission's February 17, 2007 order.

Cedar County's request included costs associated with maintenance and service for equipment for a period of one-year after the expiration of the warranty period. The Commission finds that maintenance of the equipment is essential to ensure the proper operation of the statewide 911 system and should be funded to the extent funds are available during this interim period, subject to change based upon the availability of funds and the permanent funding mechanism. The Commission encourages Cedar County to establish a maintenance and service plan and submit the associated costs for review.

The Commission finds that the funding request shall be granted only to the extent the pricing complies with TCI's response to the RFP.

Therefore, the request for funding should be granted, in part, in the amount of **\$76,408.98** in non-recurring costs subject to the limitations set forth herein. Said amounts are consistent with the pricing set forth in the vendor's response to the RFP. However, this amount does not include costs associated with the reporting software package, the UPS freight, and installation and on-site training, or any amounts requested

in excess of the prices offered in response to the RFP as outlined in Appendix A.

The Fund shall therefore pay to Cedar County the amount of **\$75,591.98** consistent with the terms of this order and the amounts set forth in Appendix A. Cedar County may request that payment be paid directly to the vendor.

Should Cedar County wish to be heard by the Commission regarding those portions of the funding request that have been denied in this order, it shall notify the Commission in writing **within fifteen (15) days** of this order and the matter will be set for hearing.

The Commission reserves the right to modify any recurring costs associated with this funding request consistent with amendments to the Interim Policy or the establishment of a permanent funding mechanism.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the Enhanced Wireless 911 Fund shall pay to Cedar County the amount of **\$76,408.98** consistent with the terms of this order and the amounts set forth in Appendix A for the equipment necessary to provide enhanced wireless 911 service.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED should Cedar County wish to be heard by the Commission regarding those portions of the funding request denied in this order, it shall notify the Commission in writing **within fifteen (15) days** of this order and the matter will be set for hearing.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 20th day of March, 2007.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director